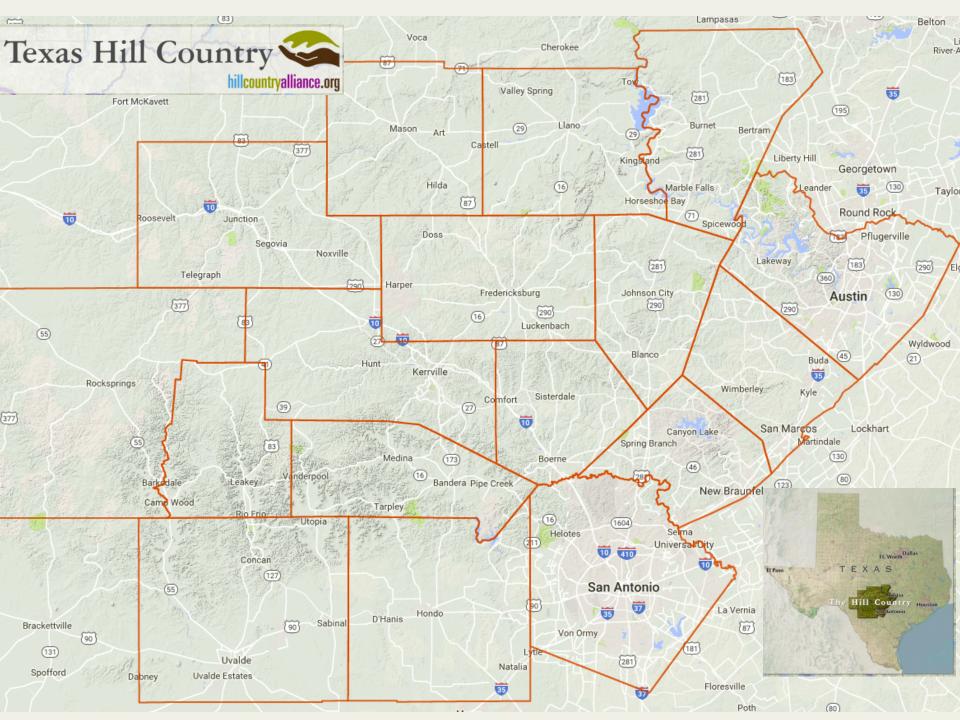
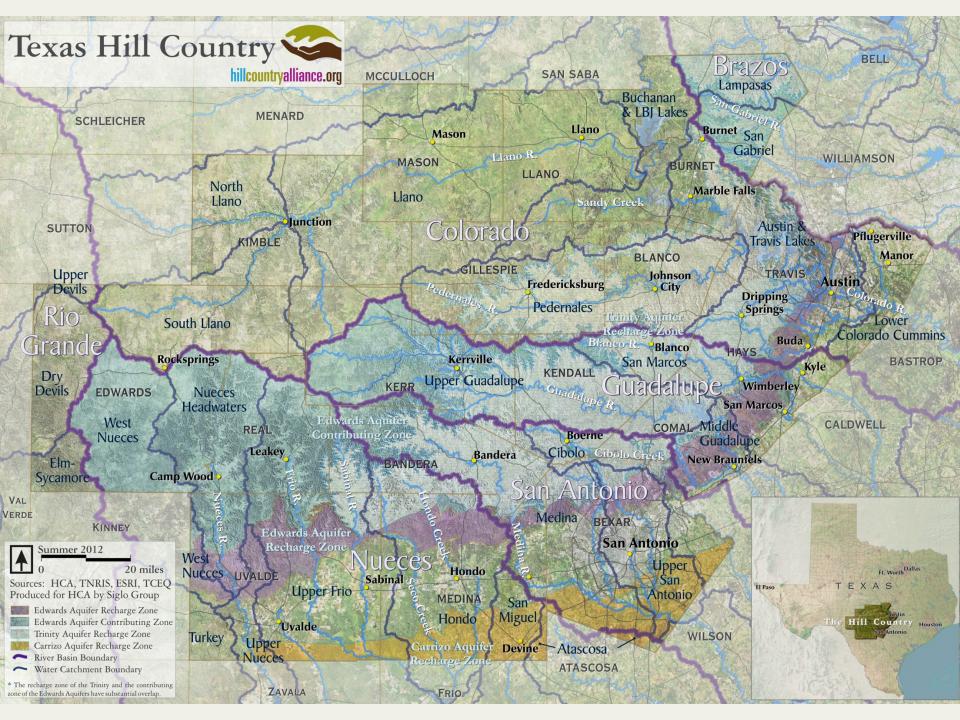


hill country alliance







- Mission: To bring together an ever-expanding alliance of groups throughout a multi-county region of Central Texas with a longterm objective of preserving open spaces, water supply, water quality and the unique character of the Texas Hill Country
- Board of Directors: 14 members, 10 counties, 4 from Travis County









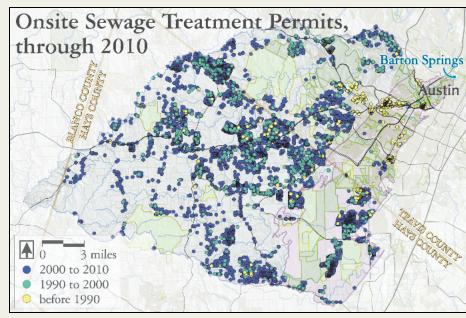






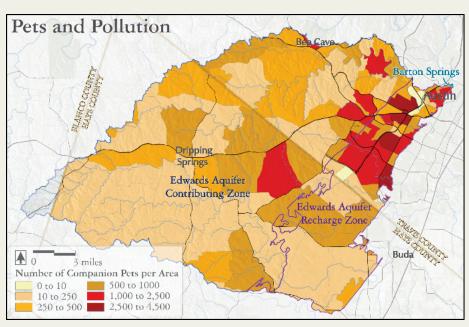


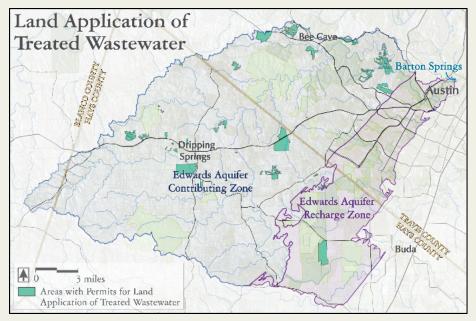




Polluting and depleting natural resources:

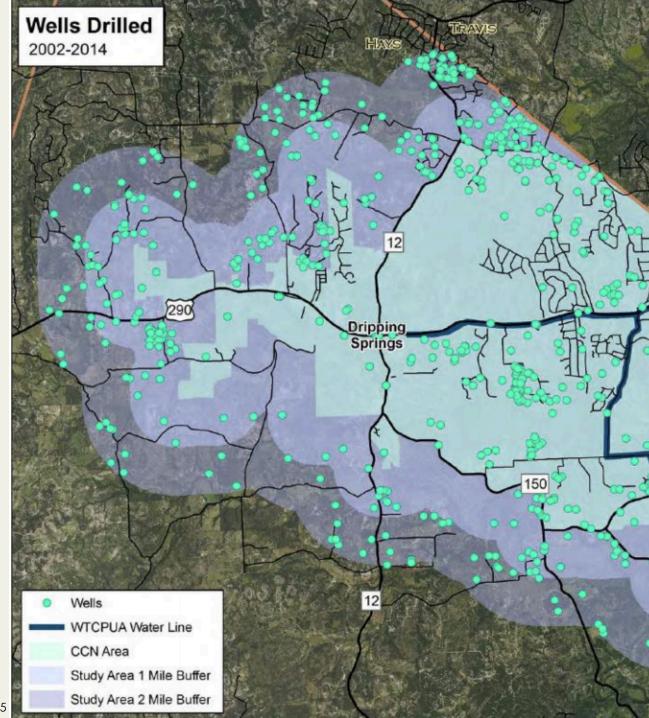
- More sewage
- More pet waste
- More fertilizer
- Less aquifer recharge





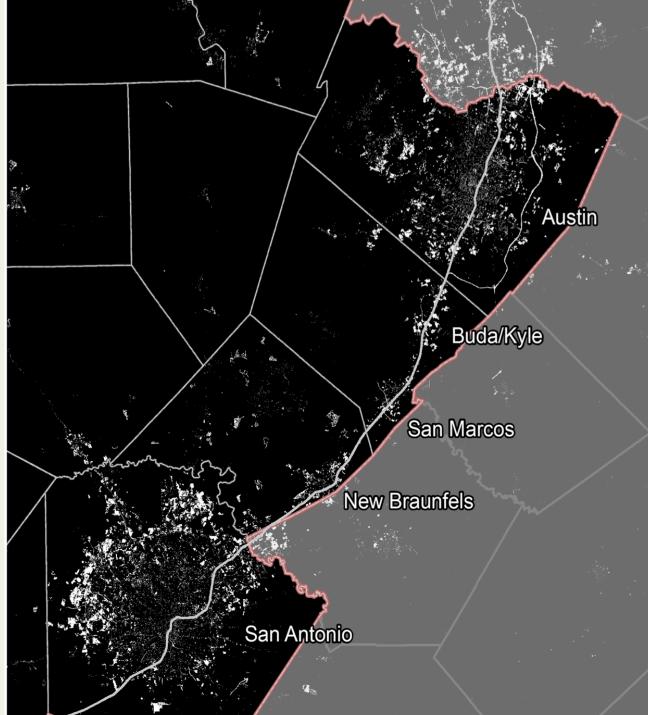
Polluting and depleting natural resources:

- More wells
- Less spring flow



Increased impervious cover 2000 to 2010:

- 50,000 acres
- Preventing recharge and filtration
- Exacerbating flooding



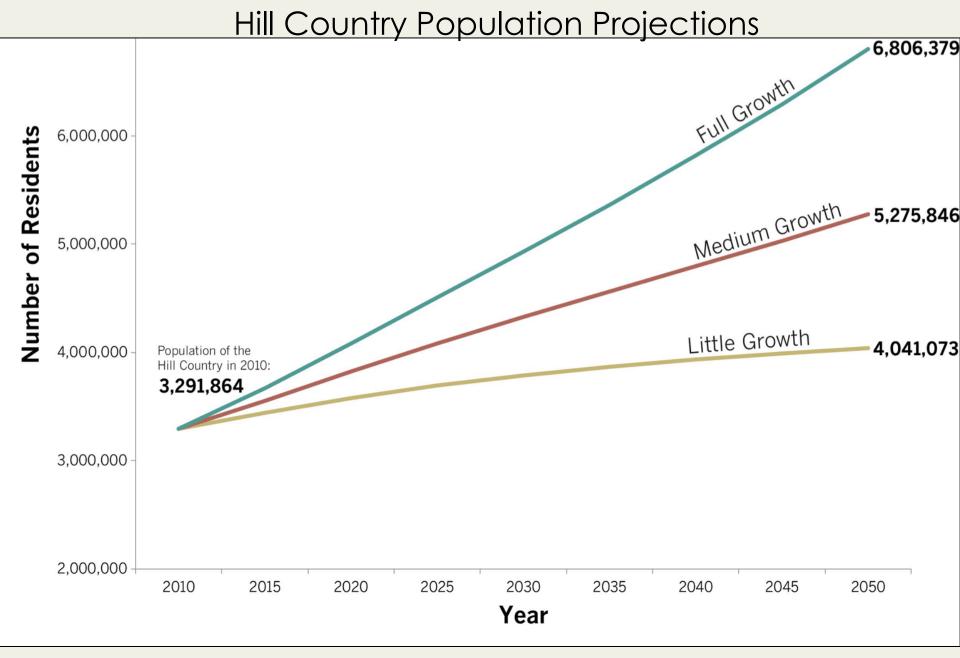


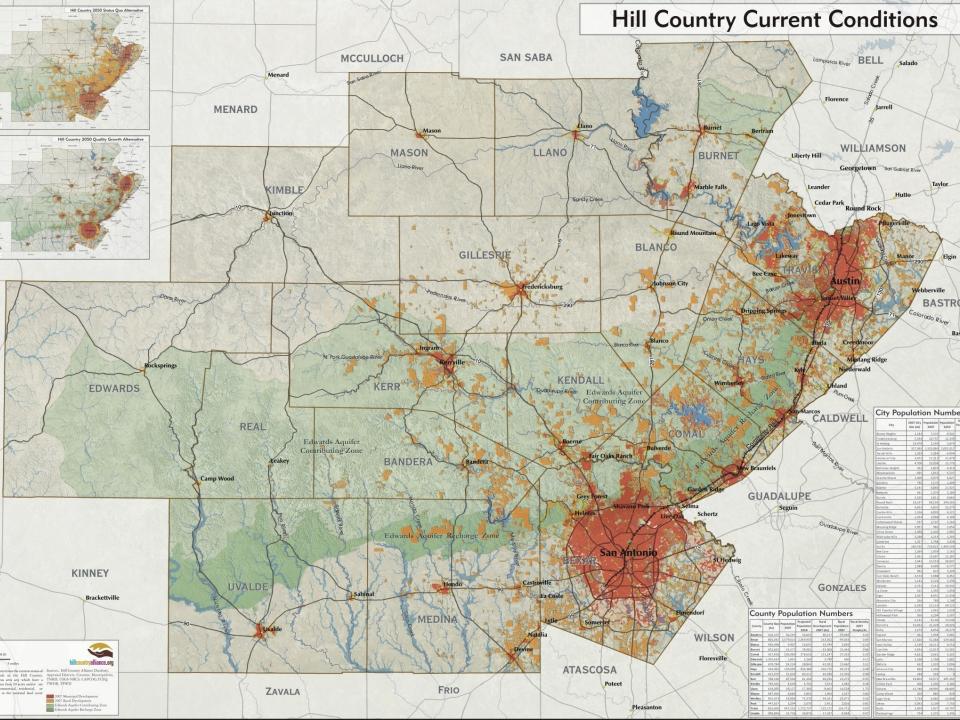


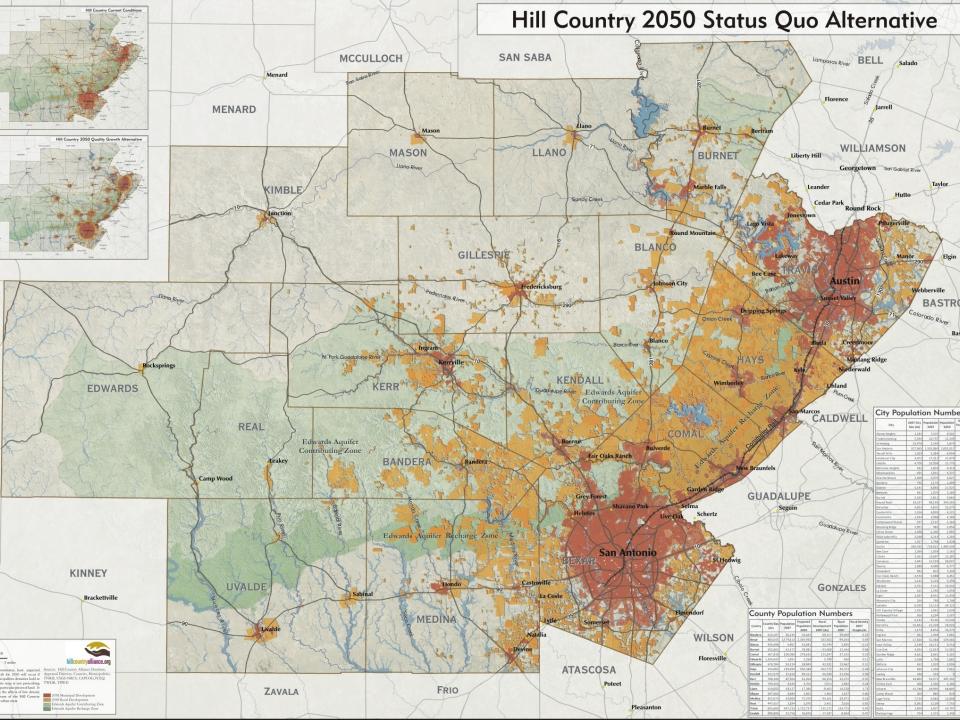






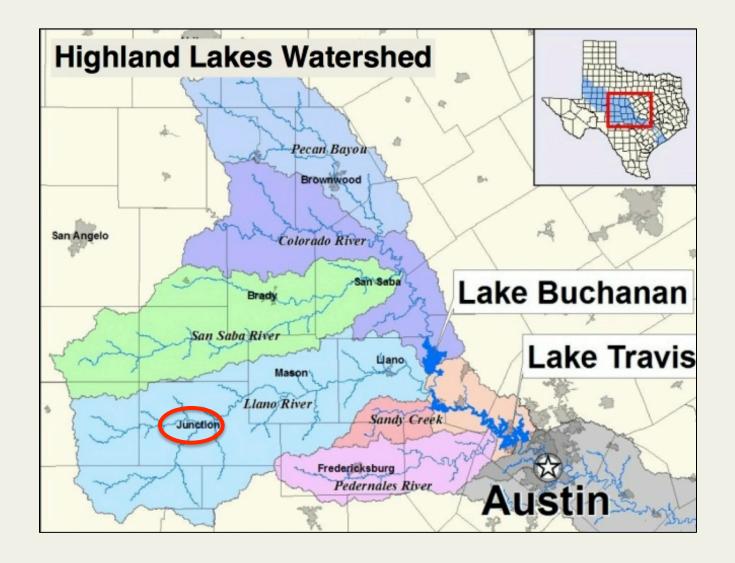












 During drought, the Llano can carry up to three quarters of Austin's drinking water



PRIVATE LANDS

In Farms and Ranches76%
Under Wildlife Management 9.1%
Texans owning homes63%
Texans owning land
Texans owning more than 1000 acres 0.11%

Total Land in Texas:
172
million
acres

P U B L I C L A N D S

 Federal
 2.6%

 State
 3.0%

 Local
 0.14%

 Parks, Forests, Refuges
 2.5%

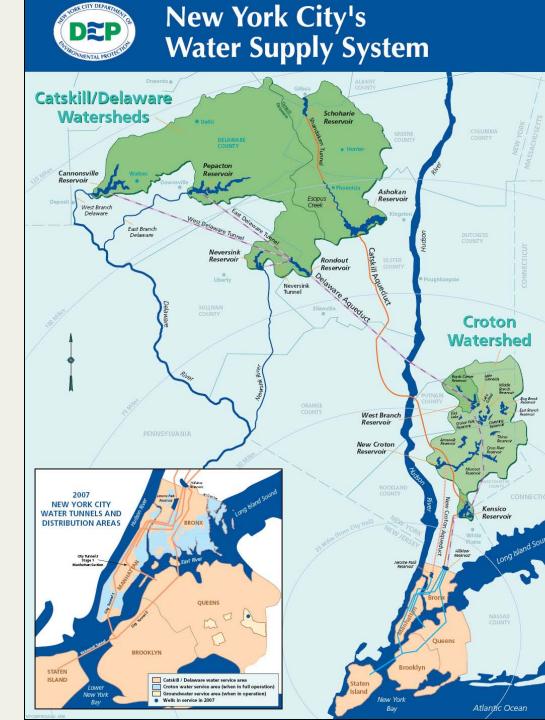
 Texas Parks and Wildlife
 0.6%

5.7% public

94.3% private

New York City Watershed Agreement

- Protect New York City's drinking water quality
- 150 miles upstream
- Multi-pronged, voluntary approach:
 - Land conservation
 - Wastewater treatment improvements
 - BMP stewardship programs
 - Economic development investments





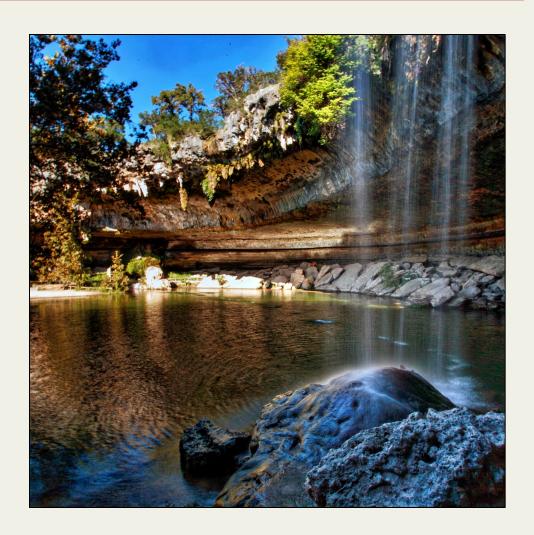




Hill Country Endowment

Directs funding to:

- Resource Protection
- Regional Transit
- Density and Affordability



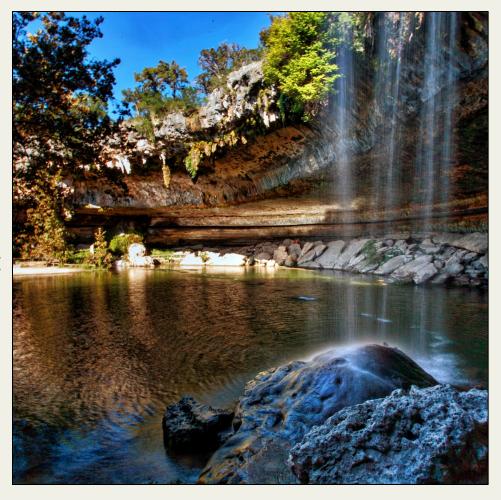
Hill Country Endowment

Directs funding to:

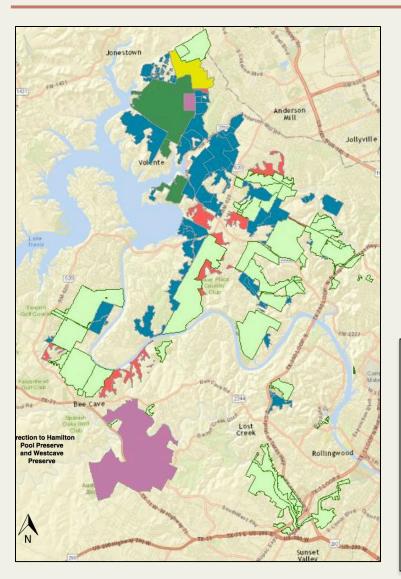
- Resource Protection
- Regional Transit
- Density and Affordability

Regional collaboration between:

- Private Corporations
- Foundations
- Government



Hill Country Endowment: Local Precedents



Balcones Canyonlands Preserve and Water Quality Protection Lands:

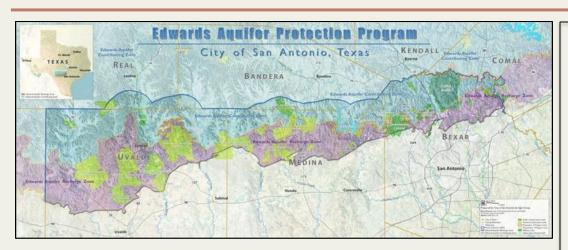
- Voters approved 9 bonds in 6 elections
- Between 1992 and 2012
- Investing approximately \$265 Million
- Conserving approximately 58,000 acres

Partners:

- City of Austin
- The Nature Conservancy
- Travis Audubon Society

- Travis County
- LCRA
- Hill Country Conservancy
- Private
 Landowners

Hill Country Endowment: Local Precedents



San Antonio Edwards Aquifer Protection Program:

- Funded by 1/8th cent on sales tax
- Voter approved 3 times since 2000
- Spent about \$2 million so far
- Conserving approximately 136,000 acres in Bexar, Medina, Uvalde counties

Voter-approved land conservation expenditures in the I-35 corridor (in millions):

• Austin: \$265

• Bee Cave: \$3.5

Travis County: \$134

• Buda: \$1.1

San Marcos: \$2

Hays County: \$33.5

Kendall County: \$5

• San Antonio: \$560

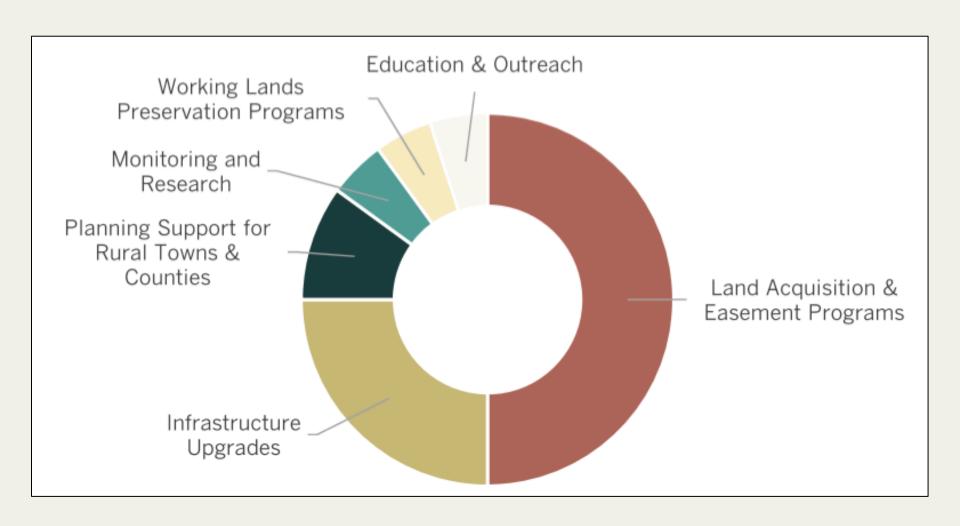
Bexar County: \$3.7

Total \$1 billion
Conserved 310,000 acres
7% of lands in 5 counties

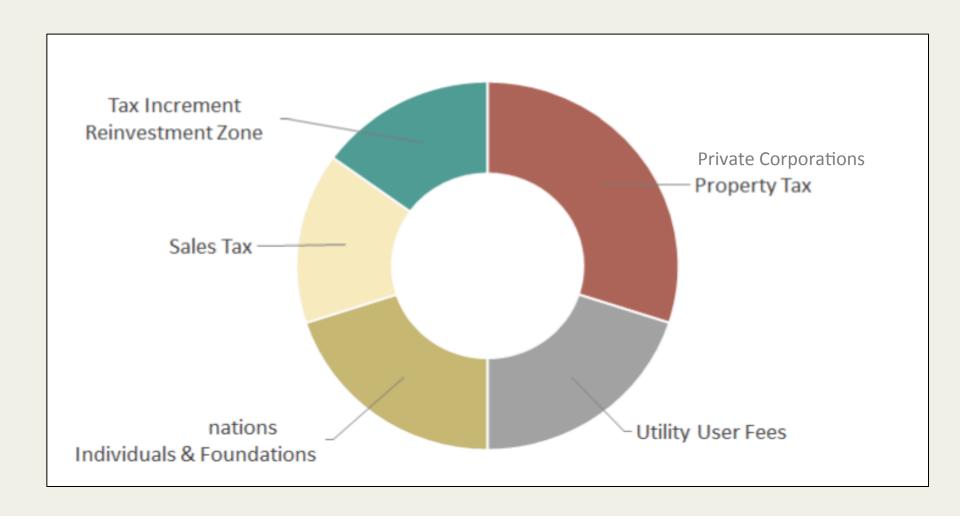
Hill Country Endowment



Hill Country Endowment: Potential Allocation of Funds



Hill Country Endowment: Diverse Funding Sources



Moving forward:

Fostering collaboration



Moving forward:

- Fostering collaboration
- Sharing expertise and building regional capacity



Moving forward:

- Fostering collaboration
- Sharing expertise and building regional capacity
- Exploring financial opportunities and legislative constraints



Partnership with the City of Austin:

 Host a semi-annual meeting of regional leaders at City Hall



Partnership with the City of Austin:

- Host a semi-annual meeting of regional leaders at City Hall
- Allocate funds for capacity building in the rural Hill Country during the next budget cycle



Partnership with the City of Austin:

- Host a semi-annual meeting of regional leaders at City Hall
- Allocate funds for capacity building in the rural Hill Country during the next budget cycle
- Allow Hill Country
 Alliance to return in
 the Spring to update
 this Committee







hill country alliance

Katherine Romans | <u>katherine@hillcountryalliance.org</u> | 512.410.9368 www.hillcountryalliance.org